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DE RUEHAM #0432 0491030
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P 181030Z FEB 09
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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4482
INFO RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO 0054
RUEHRC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHDC

UNCLAS AMMAN 000432

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

STATE FOR OES (Wood), EEB/TPP/MTAA/ABT (Szymanski)
AG FOR USDA/FAS - Steve Frogett

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EAGR](#) [ECON](#) [ETRD](#) [TBIO](#) [KPAO](#) [JO](#)

SUBJECT: Demarche Delivered on Biosafety: Jordan Does Not Plan to
Attend Meeting on the Cartagena Protocol in Mexico

Ref: State 11910

ESTH and Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) officers delivered reftel demarche to Jordan's Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Industry and Trade, and Ministry of Environment (MOE), which is the focal point for biosafety in Jordan. All agencies indicated that the Government of Jordan (GOJ) did not plan to send a representative to the February 23-27 meeting of the Group of the Friends of the Co-Chairs Concerning Liability and Redress in the Context of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. Suggesting that there was not enough time to make travel and visa arrangements for this particular meeting, the MOE Director of Biological Diversity, Raed Bani Hani, said that Jordan welcomed participation in future events. GOJ officials took the points under consideration but were not able to comment on the GOJ position on key elements of the proposed agreement. Post will continue to solicit the GOJ views and support for a more balanced proposal.

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Beecroft